



THE



Counsellor

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December, 1957

REST YOU MERRY, THIS YULETIDE

A THOUGHT for CHRISTMAS

In commemorating the birth of Our Lord, we are heartened at a time when we must face conditions brought on by those who have no regard for the principles He taught us.

May we hold fast to those principles ... knowing that truth and right can never be destroyed and that this knowledge will help us greatly through the coming year.

Deputy Minister

Minister

HOLD PLANNING MEET

Recommendations for changes in subdivision regulations as well as suggestions for streamlining application procedures were approved during the final sessions of The Alberta Planning Conference held November 20 to 22 in the Highways Building. If adopted, they will promote greater efficiency in the processing of applications by municipalities, district planning commissions and government departments concerned.

Sponsored by the Department of Municipal Affairs, the theme of the Conference was "Planning in Relation to Traffic". Those in attendance included the directors and members of the various District Planning Commissions, representatives of the City Planning Departments of Edmonton and Calgary, city and town engineers, private engineering and planning consultants, officials of the Highways and Municipal Affairs Departments as well as several municipal councillors and observers from areas now contemplating the establishment of district planning commissions.

After registration A.W. Morrison, Deputy Minister, delivered greetings and suggested that government grants to district planning commissions may be included in the overall municipal grants contemplated under the New Deal.

Much interest was shown in the proposed establishment of a Peace River District Planning Commission. Observers from that area were of the opinion that a sufficient number of municipalities were interested to make the scheme feasible and announced that an organizational meeting would be called some time in December.

- J. G.

BUSINESSES ACTIVE

Net profit of \$71,260.75 from cooperative trading activities was reported to delegates during a business session of the Association Convention. The trading account began 20 years ago when the Association was made an agency for purchasing office supplies and culverts. Other commodities have been added since including chemical sprays, anti-freeze and tires.

A second business venture, the Jubilee Insurance Agency, reported an earned surplus standing at \$11,800 for the year ending August 31. A charter was taken out three years ago enabling the Association to cover certain hazards for municipalities, their employees and residents.

ASSOCIATION CONVENTION

Calgary - Consideration of 31 resolutions; addresses by five Alberta Cabinet ministers; periods of sharp questioning; a royal banquet and a speech (rollicking and serious in turn) by Mayor MacKay of Calgary; reports of officials; fraternal greetings from allied organizations in Alberta and our neighboring provinces.

These were the highlights of the four day annual convention of the Alberta Association of Municipal Districts held November 12 to 15 at the Palliser Hotel in Calgary. They are in fact a capsule-size report of the entire 49th convention.

As a result of elections held on Thursday, the Association executive was returned unchanged for another year of service. Delegates in attendance numbered 234, with 305 visitors, 169 of whom were women.

Special County Meeting

Preliminary to the general convention, county officials opened their special meeting on November 12 with J.M. MacKay in the chair. About one hundred were in attendance. In addressing the section, Chas. Hayes, Association President, strongly supported the county system. He said county men must give a lead to our municipal districts in regard to the New Deal and predicted the formation of many more counties within the Province.

A.W. Morrison, Deputy Minister of Municipal Affairs, told the meeting that the M.D. of Forty Mile #2 was converting to county status on January 1, 1958. He also suggested that in the light of past experience the plebiscite (now mandatory after four years as a county) could well be abolished. This was later discussed during the question period and a resolution in support of the suggestion was approved by the County meeting.

(More on Page 8)



EXECUTIVE RETURNED - No change in the executive of the Alberta Association of Municipal Districts was made by elections at the convention held last month in Calgary. Seated are A.B. Haarstad returned as Vice-President for his eighth term; Mrs. M. Smith, Secretary-Treasurer; Chas Hayes now serving his eighth term as President. Standing are Directors J.F. Smith, Fairview; G.W. Moyer, Fort Saskatchewan; J.M. MacKay of Brant.

THE SECOND PAGE . . .

...THE MIDNIGHT CLEAR

It came upon the midnight clear,
That glorious song of old,
From angels bending near the earth,
To touch their harps of gold:
Peace on the earth, good will to men,
From heav'n's all gracious King.
The world in solemn stillness lay
To hear the angels sing.

CONVENTION NOTES

Delegates approached their chores with refreshing enthusiasm. We took this as an awareness of their part in directing the development in what was referred to several times as "Canada's most progressive province". Without going Texan, we're inclined to agree.

* * * * *

Judging from the absence of women delegates, administration of a municipality must be a male occupation. Wives and lady visitors were in evidence, of course. And nobody told us what went on behind the scenes.

* * * * *

A large percentage of councillors have had many years of experience. As one delegate expressed it: "I met many of these men a long time ago. They keep coming back year after year".

* * * * *

We were impressed again with the calm ability of President Hayes to keep things moving smoothly. Add his obvious respect for letting delegates run their convention and you can see why he was returned unopposed for his eighth term.

* * * * *

Another bouquet: The entire executive of the Association is outstandingly qualified. Let's go all the way and say this also applies to the average of delegates. Whatever country or province they hail from originally, they're good representative Albertans now. Speaking of hail ... and hats!

* * * * *

If they didn't know it before, delegates learned that framing the New Deal is a real tough assignment, with ramifications reaching into a dozen related fields having to be "dovetailed" together. Give the Committee and the Government an "A" for effort. They're designing a pattern of provincial-municipal relations in this Province which may well serve as an example for Canada. Pioneering can be of many types ... all of which take courage.

* * * * *

From the standpoint of an observer, we'll agree that the convention was a success ... in almost every department. And yet, after all is said and done, we're forced to suggest that too little advantage was taken of the opportunity to give decisive and specific direction to the Provincial Government regarding the New Deal.

In his foreword appearing in the convention program, President Hayes said, "We expect the convention to resolve some of the thinking and studies ... regarding the distribution of Provincial Grants and division of responsibilities between the Province and all Municipalities. Let us not take a negative attitude ..."

Frankly we're sorry that the resolutions had so little to do with New Deal proposals. And even during the discussion periods one had to be sharp to gather the general views of the convention. For example, opinion re the sales tax (which is no longer of immediate interest in Alberta) was sharply divided ... and for all we could tell, evenly.

Personally, we would have liked to see the convention "resolve" a lot of "the thinking and studies" regarding the New Deal right then and there. Failing that, the resolving will now be done by the committee, the cabinet, the caucus and the Legislature. It may be the delegates wanted it this way, reserving the right to criticise the New Deal when it has taken its final form.

It may be easier to "take a negative attitude"; but a positive approach is far more democratic. The democratic way is never easier. It's only better.

TRIBUTE TO SECRETARIES

(An address by J. M. Goldenberg, Q.C., of Saskatoon before the Rural Municipalities' Secretary-Treasurers Association of Saskatchewan. Reprinted from WESTERN MUNICIPAL NEWS.)

Municipal secretaries play a very important role under our system of government, a greater role than most people realize, and greater than they themselves realize.

The rural secretaries are the living personification of government to the farmers of this province. They are not only charged with the collection of taxes to support many of the functions of government, but actually administer many of the laws of the province. Farmers are no different than other people in that they look upon the person enforcing or administering the law as the law itself; dislike of the administrator is turned into a dislike of the law and, conversely, dislike of the law is turned into a dislike of the administrator.

In their dealings with farmers, secretaries have great opportunities of encouraging public support for the law or stirring up dislike for it, disobedience to it, and general discontent. Municipal secretaries can and ought to be the greater force in the province in the promotion of good citizenship.

That is particularly so in a province such as ours where we have many people who have come here from other lands and who were brought up under an entirely different system of government - people coming from countries where public servants look upon themselves as the masters and not the servants of the people they are supposed to serve - people who have been educated to believe that they must give some special reward to a public servant before getting anything done. It is very important that these people be taught to know that our public servants are servants of the public, and that when they ask such a servant for service they will get it depending on whether or not they are entitled to it under the law, and not because of any special favor granted to the servant. Municipal secretaries have a particularly good opportunity to give this lesson to these people and to demonstrate to them by their conduct that a citizen gets what he is entitled to because the law provides for it, and that under our law there is no distinction between rich and poor, white or black, Protestant, Catholic, Jew or Hindu - all people are alike.

Municipal secretaries are or ought to be the listening posts for the government. They should keep their ears attuned to what the people think and communicate the public thinking to the government.

In the discharge of their duties secretaries must forget their political affiliations; there is just no room for politics in the office of any municipal secretary. His job is to administer the laws entrusted to him, no matter what they are nor what the political complexion of the government that passed them may be. Once passed, the laws are the laws of the land and all of us are in duty bound to carry them out and it is the duty of the secretaries to support them without any reservation or qualification.

THIS MONTH

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RABIES CONTROL IN ALBERTA

BY E. E. BALLANTYNE, V. S., D. V. S.

DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

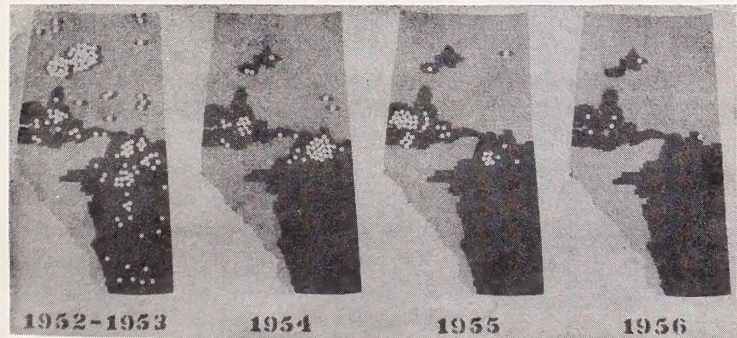
The results of the extensive rabies control program in Alberta have been very encouraging. Map 1 shows the incidence of rabies since 1952. There hasn't been a positive case diagnosed for the past year and a half. This is a very gratifying situation when one considers that the disease entered the Province from the North West Territories in June, 1952, and by the Spring of 1953 had spread south 750 miles. By 1955 the disease had been pushed back 400 miles with a few cases north of that in 1955 and up to May 1956. No human cases of rabies developed. Approximately 200 people were given the Pasteur treatment due to dog bites, cat bites and scratches, exposure when skinning rabid animals, scratches from a rabid lynx, exposure when unknowingly treating rabid cattle, etc. In the opinion of the medical profession this excellent situation was due to the all-out educational program advising exposed people whom to contact, plus reducing the number of carriers and rabid animals in the infected wildlife population in forest and agricultural areas; the strict enforcement of the dog quarantine laws, and dog vaccination.

Control Committee

All these segments of the control program were co-ordinated and directed by the Alberta Central Rabies Control Committee. Members represented the Alberta Department of Agriculture, the Federal Department of Agriculture, the Federal Department of Indian Affairs, the Alberta Department of Lands and Forests, the Royal Canadian Mounted Police, the Alberta Department of Health, the Alberta Veterinary Medical Association, and the Medical Officer of Health for the City of Edmonton. The Committee had no legal power of its own but the spirit of cooperation and working towards a common goal prevailed. It was also good for public confidence in knowing that doctors of human and veterinary medicine, law officers and predator control officers were all working as a unit.

Wildlife control methods in both the agricultural and forest areas were outlined and illustrated with colored transparencies. In the forest areas a double line, 5 miles apart, was established along the margin of the farming area. In the far north, single lines fanned out from the small farming communities of Keg River and Ft. Vermilion. The length of lines totalled approximately 5,000 miles with 151 trappers at work in the peak of the Winter and Spring of 1953. During the summer the formal lines were not adhered to as the trappers worked back into the forest as deep as 40-70 miles to find dens. Gradually the staff was reduced until only a few trappers were required in each Forestry Division to work over pockets of predators. At present only two such trappers are employed, working on packs of wolves. The forest area program was carried out by the Forest Rangers of the Alberta Department of Lands and Forests. The trappers used strychnine pellets, snares, and traps, with the first two named the principal depopulation methods. The program in the farming areas was supervised by the Alberta Department of Agriculture and was directed primarily at the coyote, the main spreader of the disease to domestic animals. The Municipalities appointed pest control officers and in unorganized marginal areas the Department employed such officers. Farmers used cyanide guns, strychnine pellets, traps, and hunted by dogs, from airplanes or on horseback. The Department at the request of Municipalities used "1080" in sparsely-settled areas.

RABIES INCIDENCE



Note 1: Each dot indicates a proven rabid animal.
Note 2: No positive cases have been diagnosed since May, 1956; over 100 heads of suspected cases have been examined since then but all were negative.

Table 1 shows the depopulation results in the forest areas from October 1952 to February 1956.

Foxes	55,889
Coyotes	53,364
Lynx	10,044
Wolves	5,461
Bear	4,130
Skunk	664
Cougar	69
Fisher	18
Badger	4
Wolverine	1

Note: Most of these kills were in 1952 to 1954.

Table 11 shows the supplies used and coyotes killed in the agricultural area, 1951 to 1956.

	1951	1952	1953	1954	1955	1956	Totals
Coyote gellers	5,560	4,530	18,000	5,410	4,080	1,580	39,960
Cyanide cartridges	11,510	12,460	46,030	20,110	10,990	5,000	106,100
Scent (2 oz. jars)	1,050	1,350	8,120	7,370	6,340	3,330	27,560
Strychnine pellets	0	0	116,000	192,000	195,500	124,500	628,000
"1080" Baits	50	161	174	382	379	753	1,899
Estimated Coyote Kills	8,400	12,300	56,300	62,100	57,200	50,500	246,800

Table 11 graphically illustrates the results of the well publicized rabies control problem, coupled with a well organized method of training and distribution of poison materials. The yearly average of 10,350 coyotes killed in 1951 and 1952 before rabies reached the main agricultural areas of the province is in marked contrast to the average of 56,520 in each of the four subsequent years when rabies control was the key objective. It shows also that people will work for the common good to protect themselves, their livestock and pets.

It should be pointed out that poisons were not thrown around indiscriminately. Both in forest and agricultural areas, the locations were marked and accurate records kept.

Sizable Kill Figures

The kill figures are sizable but in looking at them one must remember that a very small part of the forest areas was worked over and also that there were an estimated 200,000 coyotes in farming areas. Nature's peak populations were not prolonged as feared by some, nor was there destruction of many valuable fur-bearing animals.

Bounties were not paid because it was deemed unwise to stimulate contact with possibly infected animals and thus increase the number of people having to take the Pasteur treatment. Moreover, experience in Alberta with a coyote bounty had proved costly and unsatisfactory.

The educational program used the press, radio, meetings, posters and bulletins. Advantage was taken of a positive diagnosis in a locality to hold meetings and use the press and radio giving full details of the case, plus adding information as to what to do when humans or animals were bitten and urging farmers to help depopulate coyotes. A medical doctor, veterinarian and pest control officer took part in the program at such meetings. In one Municipality, for example, this approach using local interest resulted in the number of farmers taking part in coyote control rising from 200 to 600 in 4 months. In the M.D. of Athabasca approximately 30 meetings were held. Over 50% of the farmers took training in coyote control methods. A bulletin was published and well distributed. A copy went to every school room. A full-scale educational program is a must.

Rabies and Dogs

As dogs can be bitten by rabid animals and thus be dangerous to humans, domestic animals and other wildlife, the Federal Department (More on Page 10)

TWENTY YEARS TO LIFE...

BY G. L. KING, ASSESSMENT APPEAL BOARD

DEPARTMENT OF MUNICIPAL AFFAIRS

In some ways the Civil Service is like the Army: (a) Everything must proceed through channels, from Jo-boy to branch head, to department head, to Minister, to Executive Council or Legislature; (b) "Rules and Regulations" take the place of individuals initiative and responsibility; (c) Departmentalization is carried to the point that individual perspective is very limited. A civil servant may be so engrossed in his own small "tree" that he learns little or nothing about "the forest".

To some extent this curbing of the individual in the Service is necessary. Obviously there must be reasonable uniformity in governmental policies and administration, hence administrative acts and regulations. However, in Government as in nature, over-specialization is a danger. One can "learn more and more about less and less until he knows everything about nothing". Over-regulation and over-refinement of administrative acts can, and sometimes does lead to confusion and futility. For example, many acts have been amended and re-amended until the original scope and purpose is lost in a welter of complex, confused and sometimes contradictory provisions difficult to read and doubly difficult to apply.

As a comparatively new and expanding organization in a young and rapidly growing Province, our own Civil Service is probably less precedent-bound and less over-regulated than many others. Nevertheless, there have been times in my own experience when the inability to do what obviously should be done has produced a feeling of futility closely akin to that of a man trying to play a piano with boxing gloves.

Speaking of Experts

Of necessity, my own experience has been largely within my own field of work, namely municipal assessments. However, I have been at some pains to broaden this field to include a general familiarity with municipal taxation and administration. I have no wish to pose as an expert, even in my own field. I wouldn't suggest that there is no such thing as a real expert; only that such are sadly in the minority. As Bernard Shaw once said of economists it might be of professed experts in general, namely, that if they "were all laid end to end they would not reach a conclusion". At least as the result of some study and considerable experience, I have arrived at certain conclusions and for what they are worth, I propose to deal with a few of them without further delay.

Service in the Civil Service differs from employment in private business in that it affords greater security at the price of generally lower salaries and slower promotions. No young person of outstanding ability and ambitions can hope to make the same rate of progress in the service as he might make in the business world. To a degree this is inevitable, since no civil servant, however zealous and efficient, earns substantial dividends for his employers. All too commonly, however, the static status of the civil servant stems from the caution in the higher brackets.

If security, serenity and obscurity are the objectives, the Service has much to offer. Civil Servants are seldom fired, either in the sense of being deprived of their jobs or being aroused to heights of enthusiasm.

Mythical Figure

The operations of the Civil Service, National and Provincial, coupled with the civic and other municipal services, affect the lives and pocket books of more people in more ways than do the activities of any group of comparable numbers in private business. The total cost of Government in Canada today (Federal, Provincial, and Municipal) absorbs nearly one-third of the national income. That mythical figure, "the average man", must work for about eighty days out of every year before he has a dollar he can call his own. The Scriptures record that Jacob served seven years to obtain the wrong wife, and another seven years before he got the right one. The man who works until he is sixty-five will probably have toiled for an equal period of forced labor for Governmental services, half of which, like Jacob, he did not want but could not escape.

Then there is the matter of Government controls. In a society where private enterprise is licensed, with a wide range of activities prescribed and proscribed, it is vitally important that such controls be exercised intelligently and constructively. Too many officials, particularly minor ones tend to become "swollen with a little brief authority", and so tend to impose regulations arbitrarily. There are of course, many courteous and considerate civil servants, but unfortunately, these qualities are not always given the attention they deserve. I would not suggest that civil servants should adopt unreservedly the merchandizing slogan "the customer is always right", but at least they can avoid the opposite extreme, namely that the citizen and taxpayer is always wrong.

Comedy Relief

Life in the Civil Service is not altogether tragic or futile, all dull routine and stuffy solemnity. Actually it has many lighter moments, and humorous incidents. For example, the maiden lady of many years in the service who transcribed a "metes and bounds" description of a certain parcel of land as "by leaps and bounds" ... possibly for the records of a kangaroo court. The writer also experienced one of these freehand transcriptions. In dictating a memorandum regarding an indigent relief case, the sentence was used: "The landlady threatens eviction". The transcription came out: "The landlady threatens evacuation". Granting a certain amount of emotional excitement, one scarcely suspected that it had reached such a climax.

One recalls too the rather pontifical official who, in dictating a speech dealing with assessment and taxation, began in this fashion: "Buildings and improvements, being capable of reproduction ...". His secretary inquired of the writer if there was not something wrong with this particular phrase. Perfect honesty would have compelled the admission that perhaps the author had confused the active with passive form of the verb, intending to convey the thought that "buildings and improvements, since they are capable of being reproduced ...". Instead, I suggested it be left unchanged, feeling it would be a shame to extinguish such a gem of unconscious humor. Besides, this particular phrase might serve to explain the presence of the many little buildings so often clustering around the skirts of the mother structures.

Then there was the case of the departmental assessor, who asked the owner how many plumbing fixtures the building contained. The answer was, or appeared to be "Nine". After checking from cellar to garret and finding no evidence whatever of any plumbing in the building, the assessor returned to the owner and demanded: "I thought you said you had nine plumbing fixtures. I can't find any". "Yah, dot is right" agreed the property owner in a broad German accent, "dot's vot I said, 'nein'".

This same assessor had another enlightening experience. Met at the door by the lady of the house, he carefully explained that he was making an assessment of all property for purposes of taxation, in doing

(More on Page 7)



GILBERT LLOYD KING has been doing assessment work with the Department for almost 25 years. A native of Arkansas, he came to Alberta in 1915, farming for some years west of Lacombe.

In 1954 Mr. King was appointed to the Alberta Assessment Commission, now the Assessment Appeal Board, and in the course of his duties he travels throughout the Province where the Board hears assessment appeals from local

courts of revision.

In the accompanying article, Mr. King proves, from his long experience as a civil servant, that even a "very serious business" has its lighter moments.

TOWNS AND CITIES
COMPARISON OF GRANTS AND TAXES FOR 1956
COMPILED BY T. D. BRUCE, STATISTICIAN, D. M. A.

1956 COMPARISON OF GRANTS AND TAXES IN TOWNS

	DIRECT GRANTS				INDIRECT GRANTS			Total 1956 Grants And Taxes	% of Grants to Total
	Public Wel- fare Assis- tance Act	Home for the Aged and Infirm Act	Crown Pro- perty Mun- icipal Grants Act	Hospital Agreements	Municipal Assistance Act	Other	Hospital		
					Operational	School Capital	Hospital	Total 1956 Tax Levy	
Athabasca	-	-	3,077.80	-	91,708.15	-	11,023.94	82,269.32	115,908.96
Barhead	1,633.25	-	-	-	81,189.06	13,937.92	15,428.41	82,683.19	126,322.66
Bassano	288.00	30.00	-	-	38,429.14	4,353.10	6,167.95	38,530.43	54,918.68
Beaverlodge	490.95	-	-	-	23,493.44	12,979.51	7,241.38	46,010.65	50,839.14
Beverly	1,757.75	775.54	-	25,440.14	86,901.51	146,723.50	38,643.44	190,966.24	335,643.27
Black Diamond	990.57	66.00	-	-	9,006.44	-	9,831.25	30,996.61	55,717.82
Blainmore	-	-	-	-	12,947.86	-	17,481.55	65,055.80	111,500.12
Bonnyville	1,474.43	871.56	311.31	5,264.14	61,130.38	9,587.24	13,000.41	93,473.23	103,569.20
Bow Island	-	124.20	-	-	14,110.65	987.12	8,306.29	44,977.34	31,137.69
Bowness	8,428.93	-	-	17,179.55	132,770.18	85,380.99	50,101.87	142,897.00	340,786.32
Brooks	2,644.70	-	-	-	51,246.24	524.64	20,923.34	151,941.55	94,604.63
Calmar	302.62	-	-	-	20,307.61	2,168.93	8,110.35	47,622.21	38,897.65
Cardston	349.17	-	-	578.22	69,442.02	1,472.63	21,187.44	112,071.35	111,861.15
Castor	216.53	-	-	-	29,992.86	23,500.82	8,110.35	52,103.79	69,250.48
Claresholm	1,972.30	-	-	-	24,237.18	23,229.82	24,118.07	115,192.57	95,652.02
Coaldale	1,028.07	80.64	-	-	58,078.50	3,879.84	19,807.32	105,117.15	101,019.92
Cold Lake	-	-	-	1,188.52	54,642.85	29,375.94	10,018.67	26,224.54	104,404.12
Coleman	361.61	-	147.52	-	21,345.59	-	16,706.30	41,800.61	53,865.72
Coronation	-	-	398.35	-	24,905.74	6,234.05	7,531.04	45,968.39	45,968.39
Daysland	-	-	-	-	12,213.47	2,951.38	5,247.87	29,669.64	25,220.32
Devon	-	-	586.48	1,521.76	17,347.70	44,560.00	12,881.14	88,697.54	88,697.54
Didsbury	342.49	-	-	-	27,593.20	655.20	10,402.03	107,065.54	48,554.03
Drayton Valley	5.99	-	-	-	23,561.53	10,779.85	20,608.13	81,814.53	74,982.48
Edson	687.43	891.58	450.00	2,373.21	152,646.52	61,879.44	25,455.60	122,191.80	267,703.74
Fairview	514.70	-	1,157.75	-	61,211.38	42,328.22	11,705.48	75,599.21	127,640.97
Falher	640.62	-	-	-	16,889.80	43,604.02	6,858.01	58,748.07	53,582.23
Forest Lawn	5,473.24	-	479.45	10,949.10	94,613.54	68,430.60	34,307.13	114,754.80	84,204.66
Fort McLeod	2,138.25	-	-	-	20,234.62	19,412.78	21,877.50	113,811.64	56,674.54
Fort Saskatchewan	-	-	-	7,126.77	6,231.25	3,910.83	20,565.53	30,395.21	45,385.59
Gleichen	-	-	3,297.27	-	5,118.10	2,853.05	3,663.28	327,155.53	231,318.36
Grande Prairie	-	-	-	1,235.87	102,502.10	30,024.66	49,837.77	17,631.30	14,912.03
Granton	-	-	-	-	3,982.57	3,817.03	8,195.54	68,610.50	61,337.47
Grimshaw	-	-	397.16	-	36,854.99	8,778.97	21,323.75	139,015.02	217,212.43
Hanna	-	-	-	-	36,941.74	-	5,435.30	34,477.98	25,239.52
Hardisty	297.44	-	-	-	14,527.48	55,207.45	11,944.02	85,022.16	133,901.31
High Prairie	1,873.64	345.78	-	2,156.38	53,305.72	-	17,413.40	206,347.51	66,527.12
High River	2,184.48	-	-	-	31,287.60	-	13,681.95	108,893.41	107,431.89
Innisfail	-	-	-	-	14,968.65	64,062.72	13,681.95	12,562.70	18,599.13
Irvine	-	-	-	874.26	439,127.06	259,443.54	122,941.69	586,668.19	1,014,453.66
Jasper Place	12,604.03	1,695.42	489.60	2,231.46	106,617.07	14,777.70	8,553.35	49,661.74	141,039.06
Lac La Biche	534.12	-	-	-	76,879.72	15,879.18	23,888.05	226,875.06	142,648.56
Lacombe	1,385.36	1,266.62	1,465.70	-	48,968.72	5,230.05	16,638.14	95,105.22	96,187.13
Leduc	1,663.71	-	-	7,568.78	38,306.58	812.35	11,603.25	61,351.96	60,632.98
Magrath	-	-	-	7,191.28	55,148.63	1,767.66	9,149.70	52,108.80	82,133.18
McLennan	493.83	-	-	-	30,722.64	17,531.25	7,888.85	35,377.48	68,150.17
McMurray	244.81	-	2,935.62	-	20,731.77	-	6,295.74	47,719.77	33,107.06
Morinville	312.00	-	-	-	22,287.01	217.21	41,003.48	48,642.13	48,642.13
Mundare	1,053.32	324.00	-	2,561.10	6,961.65	-	40,604.69	40,604.69	36,232.06
Nanton	1,720.85	132.60	211.98	2,808.96	18,699.82	72.19	30,582.10	68,852.74	30,75
Nornton	408.90	-	-	-	12,070.10	-	9,447.87	50,270.88	26,401.21
Okotoks	253.00	-	-	2,373.93	8,369.49	1,543.50	6,990.61	140,798.00	55,377.93
Olds	1,001.52	236.40	661.94	-	21,535.86	208.72	16,561.47	134,215.39	134,215.39
Peace River	21.00	634.74	2,240.16	-	99,431.95	20,583.52	18,725.37	119,981.53	69,996.76
Pincher Creek	1,381.84	923.63	1,225.90	8,775.42	30,154.65	111.31	14,312.38	220,373.90	174,321.97
Ponoka	7,855.16	-	-	-	92,489.94	14,868.17	30,166.76	394,695.87	103,154.51
Provost	222.10	-	-	-	19,334.56	1,355.63	9,354.16	64,318.68	38,835.83

1956 COMPARISON OF GRANTS AND TAXES IN TOWNS (CON'T)

	DIRECT GRANTS					INDIRECT GRANTS				Total 1956 Grants	Total 1956 Tax Levy	Total Grants And Taxes	% of Grants to Total
	Public Welfare Assistance Act	Home for the Aged and Infirm Act	Crown Property Municipal Grants Act	Hospital Agreements	Municipal Assistance Act	Other	School		Hospital				
							Operational	Capital					
Raymond	714.25	-	-	-	19,004.05	-	32,768.65	-	20,744.44	73,231.39	110,793.84	184,025.23	39.79
Red Cliff	636.93	-	214.32	4,979.35	14,594.49	-	34,587.10	9,901.43	15,931.04	80,844.66	103,729.88	184,574.54	43.73
Redwater	-	-	562.59	4,645.34	8,249.40	-	37,414.94	5,096.86	9,004.87	64,974.00	97,468.73	134,442.73	48.32
Rimber	-	-	-	-	7,227.00	-	21,997.99	3,536.27	7,888.85	40,650.11	60,882.61	101,532.72	40.03
Rocky Mountain House	479.79	144.94	270.08	-	11,215.12	-	82,912.51	29,012.75	12,242.20	136,277.39	73,660.47	209,937.86	59.14
Spirit River	46.98	-	343.60	-	6,563.62	-	31,443.85	19,719.50	7,164.71	65,282.26	37,847.49	103,129.75	63.30
Stavely	-	-	-	-	2,552.08	-	3,848.82	3,688.85	2,785.80	12,875.55	25,571.64	38,447.19	33.48
Stettler	1,669.29	-	591.37	-	25,536.45	115.34	64,801.83	92,982.81	27,875.07	213,572.16	274,456.09	488,028.25	43.76
Stony Plain	1,375.90	-	-	2,698.28	8,335.25	-	29,361.92	13,433.63	9,098.58	64,303.56	71,934.06	136,237.62	47.19
St. Albert	-	-	-	9,239.35	10,372.23	-	23,271.65	8,957.78	11,322.12	63,163.13	48,468.93	111,632.06	56.58
St. Paul	1,285.80	-	594.32	-	18,325.06	310.00	64,216.15	78,504.63	20,003.26	183,239.22	128,930.58	312,169.80	58.69
Strathmore	-	-	-	-	5,494.40	-	7,936.50	4,424.16	5,997.57	23,852.63	36,240.97	60,093.60	39.69
Sundre	72.00	-	-	-	6,704.10	-	9,020.86	214.20	7,318.05	23,329.21	25,791.63	49,120.84	47.49
Sylvan Lake	-	-	-	-	9,794.70	-	43,068.21	8,632.11	10,691.69	72,186.71	89,090.14	161,276.85	44.75
Taber	5,085.60	-	-	-	29,899.19	-	182,119.52	210,517.62	32,637.35	460,259.28	329,235.57	789,494.85	58.29
Three Hills	87.21	92.01	-	-	9,982.01	7,000.00	10,400.07	20,926.76	10,896.15	59,384.21	82,049.10	141,433.31	41.98
Tofield	-	-	-	-	5,736.34	-	20,120.83	33.94	6,261.66	32,152.77	50,079.59	82,232.36	39.10
Two Hills	-	-	-	-	6,103.15	-	26,963.70	2,416.32	6,662.07	42,145.24	54,633.18	96,778.42	43.54
Vegreville	2,640.12	-	532.25	-	20,455.70	-	60,178.57	16,574.28	22,329.02	122,709.94	173,201.72	295,911.66	41.46
Vermilion	1,116.00	-	447.40	-	18,793.33	-	35,260.01	13,185.66	20,514.42	89,316.82	149,688.64	239,005.46	37.37
Viking	777.90	-	-	-	6,665.08	-	17,609.65	29.70	7,275.46	32,357.79	92,190.70	92,190.70	35.10
Vulcan	161.01	231.00	-	-	9,482.52	-	16,055.13	593.78	10,350.92	36,874.36	84,626.49	121,500.85	30.35
Wainwright	-	-	435.74	-	20,916.17	-	50,552.19	70,741.21	22,831.66	165,476.97	151,717.16	317,194.13	52.16
Westlock	350.12	658.80	-	4,105.61	8,772.28	-	48,805.03	11,196.20	9,575.66	83,463.70	75,696.01	159,159.71	52.44
	83,751.61	9,525.46	24,513.14	202,229.19	1,157,171.24	19,903.94	3,740,889.17	1,808,862.97	1,264,115.60	8,310,962.32	7,827,689.68	16,138,652.00	51.50

NOTE: Direct grants are as shown in each town's Audited Financial Statement.
Indirect grants are grants paid to the school and hospital authorities concerned.
And to express these grants in terms of their assistance to municipalities, we
have pro-rated school grants on an assessment basis and hospital grants on
a provincial per-capita basis. The resulting figures should therefore be
considered approximations only.

1956 COMPARISON OF GRANTS AND TAXES IN CITIES

	DIRECT GRANTS								INDIRECT GRANTS			Total Grants And Taxes	% of Grants to Total		
	Public Wel- fare Assis- tance Act	Crown Property Grants Act	Municipal Assistance Act	Library Act	Hospital Agreements	Road Grant	Miscellaneous	Home for Aged and Infirm	School Operational	School Capital	Hospital				
Calgary	117,649.09	13,266.52	1,402,561.57	2,900.00	684,914.18	9,880.00	90,054.27	41,856.61	2,523,903.18	1,275,948.04	1,531,007.91	7,693,941.37	13,143,518.94	20,837,460.31	36.92
Camrose	3,706.34	1,785.28	44,821.47	-	2,477.65	1,015.00	538.67	2,500.00	81,631.74	257.72	48,926.21	187,660.08	393,786.15	581,446.23	32.27
Drumheller	418.20	987.70	21,579.55	372.35	-	450.00	-	360.18	91,629.17	12,135.50	23,555.80	151,488.45	206,722.50	358,210.95	42.29
Edmonton	259,800.00	20,000.00	1,744,696.96	1,850.00	929,947.00	17,050.00	126,449.00	-	3,163,032.52	1,451,463.15	1,904,476.01	9,618,784.64	17,021,300.42	26,640,085.06	36.10
Lethbridge	33,355.03	1,317.32	229,047.62	550.00	-	2,920.00	6,682.28	-	599,152.22	441,115.47	250,023.76	1,564,163.70	2,236,689.12	3,800,852.82	41.15
Medicine Hat	16,635.77	-	157,042.94	-	71,900.77	4,085.00	-	1,035.30	260,891.76	319,276.36	171,424.90	1,002,292.80	880,111.14	1,882,403.94	53.24
Red Deer	6,557.35	2,042.36	99,585.92	550.00	-	850.00	3,262.04	1,475.50	146,402.76	138,770.68	108,705.98	508,202.59	798,836.23	1,307,038.82	38.88
Wetaskiwin	3,112.66	-	30,976.22	-	17,885.07	710.00	7,000.00	-	72,511.51	100,217.19	33,813.01	266,225.66	289,529.74	555,755.40	47.90
	441,234.44	39,399.18	3,730,312.25	6,222.35	1,707,124.67	36,960.00	233,986.26	47,227.59	6,939,174.86	3,739,184.11	4,071,933.58	20,992,759.29	34,970,494.24	55,963,253.53	37.51

* Grants in lieu of Service Tax, City Health Departments, Youth Guidance, Etc.
NOTE: Above Footnote Regarding Towns Applies to Cities.

POPULATION TREND

Cities	1951	1956
Calgary	129,060	181,780
Camrose	4,131	5,817
Drumheller	2,601	2,632
Edmonton	159,631	226,002
Lethbridge	22,947	29,462
Medicine Hat	16,364	20,826
Red Deer	7,575	12,338
Wetaskiwin	3,824	4,476
Total	346,133	483,333

Towns	1951	1956
Athabasca	1,068	1,293
Barrhead	1,243	1,610
Bassano	624	753
Beaverlodge	514	768
Beverly	2,159	4,602
Black Diamond	1,154	991
Blaimore	1,933	1,973
Bonnyville	1,139	1,495
Bow Island	653	1,001
Bowness	2,922	6,217
Brooks	1,648	2,320
Calmar	944	730
Cardston	2,487	2,607
Castor	798	958
Claresholm	1,608	2,431
Coaldale	806	2,327
Cold Lake	*	1,097
Coleman	1,961	1,566
Coronation	738	784
Daysland	475	499
Devon	842	1,429
Didsbury	1,180	1,227
Drayton Valley	*	2,588
Edson	1,956	2,560
Fairview	929	1,260
Falher	575	802
Forest Lawn	1,079	3,150
Ft. McLeod	1,860	2,103
Ft. Saskatchewan	1,076	2,582
Gleichen	430	581
Grande Prairie	2,664	6,302
Gratum	327	322
Grimshaw	564	904
Hanna	2,027	2,327

Hardisty	536	628
High Prairie	1,141	1,743
High River	1,888	2,102
Innisfail	1,417	1,883
Irvine	224	232
Jasper Place	9,139	15,957
Lac La Biche	905	967
Lacombe	2,277	2,747
Leduc	1,842	2,008
Lloydminster (Alta. Portion)	1,706	2,506
Magrath	1,320	1,382
McLennan	1,074	1,092
McMurray	621	1,110
Milk River	481	642
Morinville	892	957
Mundare	596	650
Nanton	934	1,047
Okotoks	767	764
Olds	1,617	1,980
Peace River	1,672	2,034
Pincher Creek	1,456	1,729
Ponoka	2,574	3,387
Provost	676	878
Raymond	2,279	2,399
Redcliff	1,538	2,001
Redwater	1,306	1,065
Rimbey	757	980
Rocky Mountain House	1,147	1,285
Spirit River	553	743
Stavely	327	338
Stettler	2,442	3,359
Stony Plain	878	1,098
St. Albert	1,129	1,320
St. Paul	1,407	2,229
Strathmore	704	727
Sundre	337	923
Sylvan Lake	985	1,114
Taber	3,042	3,688
Three Hills	1,026	1,095
Tofield	692	800
Two Hills	525	713
Vegreville	2,223	2,574
Vermilion	1,982	2,196
Viking	683	897
Vulcan	1,040	1,204
Wainwright	1,996	2,653
Westlock	1,111	1,136
Total	106,247	149,121

* Not incorporated at date of Census.



SECRETARY'S CALENDAR

Municipal District Act

Jan. 1 - Taxes are due on this date of the year in which they are imposed. Sec. 330.

Jan. 1 - Secretary-treasurer's security shall be renewed at beginning of each year. Sec. 60(2).

Council shall as soon as practicable in each year prepare estimate of expenditures and revenues and levy taxes. Sec. 331, 332.

Jan. 10 - Secretary-treasurer shall complete and make ready for audit accounts of previous year. Sec. 61(x).

Jan. 10 - Report shall be made to the Minister setting forth the amount spent in the previous year for the destruction of pests. Sec. 279.

Town and Village Act

Every Month

15th - Secretary-treasurer shall prepare statement of moneys received and their disposition, submit to council at next meeting and enter in minutes. Sec. 67(r).

Jan. 1 - Taxes are due on this date of the year in which they are imposed. Sec. 352.

Jan. 1 - Penalties not exceeding 6% added. Sec. 373.

Assessment Act

Jan. 1 - Previous year's assessment shall be adopted until a new assessment is directed. Sec. 16 and 17.

Jan. 1 - Secretary-treasurer shall give notice as soon as may be after adoption of the roll. Sec. 30.

Jan. 31 - Assessment appeals prior to this date in municipal districts. Sec. 36(3)(d).

TWENTY YEARS TO LIFE

(From Page 4)

which it was necessary to make a careful inspection, both of the inside and outside of all buildings. The lady smiled politely and appeared to give consent. The assessor went through the various rooms with the obviously puzzled lady at his heels. Finally she ventured to ask what he was selling. Again he explained precisely what he was doing, and how and why. Before his inspection was completed the lady again wanted to know what his product was. He went through the entire routine again. Finally, his work completed, he thanked the lady at the door for her courtesy, upon which she complained gently: "I still don't know what it is you are trying to sell".

I remember, too, the Ukrainian of the old school, wrapped in a sheepskin coat, wool cap and an air of bovine stolidity. Alighting from the Government of Alberta car in which I had given him a lift into town, he noticed the crest on the door. "Oh", he said in surprise, "you work for Government, eh?" Feeling in a sprightly mood, I replied: "Well, taxes being what they are, don't we all more or less?" "Sure", he replied without a flicker of expression "but you get paid for it; I don't".

So much for the lighter side of a very serious business.

* * * *

A mild little man walked into an income tax inspector's office, sat down and beamed on everyone.

"What can we do for you?" asked the inspector.

"Nothing, thank you," replied the little man, "I just wanted to meet the people I'm working for".

ASSOCIATION CONVENTION (From Page 1)

Mr. Morrison also dealt with town and village representation for school purposes under the county system. He felt that sections of the public were "unduly worried" about this point and that all members of the county council were properly concerned with educational matters. For municipal affairs, he continued, villages can enter into agreements with the council of the county in which they are located.

The view was expressed by delegates that towns and villages were "amply represented" on the present basis, whereupon it was decided to leave the question of representation as it is for the present time.

Questioned by Deputy Minister Morrison regarding the need for embodying all phases of local administration in a new County Act, the meeting went on record as favoring such a move.

The meeting was concluded when delegates returned Mr. MacKay as president and Mr. Del McQueen of Vulcan as secretary of the County Association.

Welcome Delegates

Opening session of the general convention got underway Tuesday afternoon with addresses of welcome by Hon. Dr. J. J. Bowlen, Lieutenant Governor of Alberta, and Mayor Don MacKay of Calgary. A third address by Hon. A. J. Hooke on behalf of the Province was delayed until the Minister's arrival next morning from Lethbridge.

On behalf of the City of Calgary, Mayor MacKay told the delegates he sensed a change of spirit growing between rural and urban people. "We're finding men and women dedicated to building a province in teamwork and co-operation", he declared. "There is now a better relationship and a common interest between us ... and I welcome the change," His Worship concluded.

Thanking the distinguished visitors, Mr. Hayes observed that Dr. Bowlen's frank address was an inspiration to everyone to speak his mind. He termed Mayor MacKay "Canada's No. 1 colorful personality".

Mr. Hooke's Address

The address of Hon. A. J. Hooke was the feature of Wednesday morning's session. Reviewing the development of Alberta he said the first municipal grants for roads were made thirty-two years ago and amounted to \$230,000. "Even by 1946 the total had risen to only \$525,000," he said, but added that grants for road building had jumped to seven millions of dollars some eight years later, while grants for education and hospital services had increased proportionately.

Mr. Hooke next explained what the Government had done with "nearly a billion dollars" it had received in revenues over the past ten years. During eight of those years (to the end of 1955) he said \$104, - 613,000 had gone for debt retirement; over 165 millions for education; \$247.5 million for highways; in excess of \$228 million for health and welfare services. Half the gasoline taxes refunded to local governments between 1950 and 1955 amounted to \$90,000,000, while at the same time some \$112 million were loaned to our municipalities.

Referring to provincial grants, the minister said these account for 53 per cent of the total expenditures made by counties and municipal districts and 80 per cent in our improvement districts. Alberta's highest mill rate in 1956, he continued, was 85.7, but government grants expressed in mills ran as high as 215.4.

Strong for Counties

Turning to Alberta counties, Mr. Hooke stated, "I'm a booster for the county system". He looked forward to a spread of the system, at which time, he said, "many of the current pressing problems will disappear".

Speaking at some length in support of counties, the Minister claimed the advantages of the system have been proven by years of successful operation. These included greater value for each tax dollar; no division of authority and responsibility; greater knowledge of cost of services among ratepayers; close liaison between all authorities; and the abolition of need for borrowing while there are funds in reserve.

"The little school district and the small municipal district died very hard", Mr. Hooke reminded the convention, "and the birth even of a new idea is not unaccompanied by pain". Concluding this section of his address, he urged the delegates to give the county system their careful consideration and then to "do something about it".

New Deal

As an introduction to his remarks on the New Deal, Mr. Hooke said Alberta has a reserve of 348 millions of dollars. This is made of

43 millions in Canada bonds; 1 million of Alberta bonds; 42 millions of school debentures; 35 millions in debentures of the Municipal Finance Corporation; 11 millions more of sundry bonds and debentures; plus 16 millions under the Self-Liquidating Projects Act; 120 million under the Municipal Revolving Fund; 13 million of R.E.A. debentures and 67 millions with the A.G.T. At the same time, he admitted, "our cash position is not good at the moment".

Large increases to the existing reserves were unnecessary said the minister and then went on to list six changes which the Government will embody in the New Deal. These were:

- (1) "We will set aside each year the money required to meet the obligations which are definitely Provincial;
- (2) "We will set aside smaller amounts in reserve as a cushion against any future recession;
- (3) "Every dollar over and above this amount will be used for local government services;
- (4) "We will take over from the municipalities the full cost of Mothers' Allowances;
- (5) "We will assume the full cost of child welfare from the time a child is declared a ward of the Government;
- (6) "We will abolish the poll tax and the personal property tax".

Exemption of Improvements

Pointing out that assessment and taxation of farm buildings would not be received with much enthusiasm, Mr. Hooke asked what the delegates thought of abolishing taxes on urban residential improvements. He said this would mean the loss of approximately 18 millions of tax revenues which would have to be made up from some other source, but listed advantages as lower assessment costs; increased purchasing power in the hands of home owners; a solution to "the hamlet problem"; encouragement of home ownership and home improvement; reduction in monthly payments on mortgages.

"Above all," he declared, "it places all taxpayers in Alberta in exactly the same position".

Mr. Taylor Speaks

Hon. Gordon Taylor, Minister of Highways, spoke to the delegates on Wednesday afternoon. Stressing the importance of roads and bridges he said the buoyancy of the entire economy is based on them and that their availability determined the 'prosperity or otherwise of every individual'. Going back to 1952 he said he was "swamped with requests" for bridges in every district. Today that backlog is "to a large degree overcome". He credited the change to the development of large corrugated metal culverts and the use of precast concrete members in bridge building, adding that Alberta was the first province in Canada to use this latter type of structure.

Mr. Taylor paid tribute to four members of his Department who were present in the gathering and urged municipal officials to plan their programs "not for next year but for three or four years in advance".

Referring to roads, the minister reviewed work accomplished under the contingency vote and the 75-25 percent grants. Under the two plans he said a total of 2,587 miles of new grade had been built and 3,251 miles of road gravelled. "We appreciate your co-operation", he stated. "Together we are building a network of district highways second to none". He said there were lots of people still without access to market roads and advised the building of low cost grades perhaps with a type of elevator grader.

Soil stabilization experiments using both asphalt and cement had proven less successful than he had hoped, the minister continued, but the Department would try again. He reminded his hearers that they could obtain old road signs simply by picking them up in South Edmonton.

Concluding his main address Mr. Taylor made a strong appeal for councillors to do everything possible to practice and promote safety on our streets and highways.

During the question period Mr. Taylor vigorously criticised the federal government for its lack of interest in road building. He charged the road policies in Canada "have been completely unrealistic to the point that we must try to accommodate a gallon of traffic on a pint of roads". Contrasted to the U.S. Government (where 755,000 miles of roads have been completed on a 50-50 basis) Mr. Taylor said the situation in Canada was shameful. As "ribbons of steel meant expansion and settlement", concluded the minister, "so ribbons of asphalt across the nation are essential to our prosperity". (More Next Page)

Thursday Session

Apart from the banquet and dance, the feature of the Convention on Thursday was an address by Provincial Treasurer E. W. Hinman. Warning the delegates of the "progressive falling of rural population", he said rural people demanded the same standard of living and of services as in urban centres. This meant higher costs which in turn meant that some new tax was "inevitable". His personal view was that when the time came a sales tax or an increase in our gasoline tax should be considered.

Mr. Hinman urged municipal councils to inform the Provincial Government of their needs re capital grants. If the system is continued applications will be accepted in the order they are received. "After the appropriation is used up", he said, "you'll have to wait till next year".

Delegates were sharply divided on the question of the sales tax. Disappointment was expressed at the lack of progress being made with the New Deal and one delegate asked that a sales tax be implemented by the Province. "We'll give you anything you want," replied the minister, "but the majority must be in favor of it." It was decided to postpone further consideration of any new taxes until it was seen how the proposals already made will work out.

Educational Problems

Hon. A. O. Aalborg, Minister of Education, discussed school problems during the Friday morning session. Naming the provision of "School facilities for rural youngsters more nearly on par with city children" as the main achievement of the Alberta school system, he said Alberta needs 500 new classrooms and 500 additional teachers every year. School population is increasing annually by 15,000 pupils, the speaker declared, while educational costs are going up by more than \$5 million per year. In 1952 the total expenditure of the Department of Education was \$16 1/2 million while this year the corresponding figure will reach \$48,700,000. Construction grants for the current year will total \$14 million or some \$9 million over the appropriation for that purpose.

Commenting on the County System, Mr. Aalborg said it had proven "very successful" in this Province. "Has not the time come to give careful thought to this joint system?" he asked. "You might have something to gain." He said counties have less need for Department of Education services, and added that he understood the same applied to services of the Municipal Affairs Department. Mr. Aalborg didn't deal with proposals already made regarding the New Deal, but rather reviewed the "original aims" of studies underway during the past two years. These he said were to relieve the complexity of grant formulae; to make grants more predictable; to put grants on a more equitable basis; to make grants more adequate and to arrive at a new division of responsibilities. He felt it would help in formulating the New Deal if these original aims were kept clearly in mind.

Report on Agriculture

Fifth member of the Alberta Cabinet to address the Convention was Hon. L. C. Halmrast, Minister of Agriculture. The review presented by Mr. Halmrast was both grave and optimistic. He urged that greater attention be given to conservation policies and proper land use and said municipal governments will be assisted to this end. Meanwhile the Department is conducting surveys and undertaking certain projects designed not only for drainage but also for provision of water supplies. Adoption of a wider national conservation policy is being urged on the federal government.

Mr. Halmrast stressed the advantages of restoring marginal land to economic use and cited the action of his Department in buying out farmers on 16 sections which are being turned into a community pasture. "There are not enough community pastures. We're encouraging these," he stated.

Number of farms in Alberta were said to have decreased from 100,000 in 1947 to 79,000 in 1957.

Turning to services rendered by the Department of Agriculture, Mr. Halmrast told the convention delegates that 4 seed cleaning plants have been built in 1957, bringing the total in the Province to twenty-three. Construction subsidies are now a maximum of \$15,000 for each plant, he said, and commended the work being done in this important field.

There are now 34 Brucellosis restricted areas in Alberta containing one million head of cattle. Some 259,000 heifers had been vaccinated with assistance of 50 cents per calf from the Department. "There will be a larger contribution next year," the minister promised.

MEET THE DEPARTMENT

LEONARD MADEN



RALPH JARROLD

Leonard Maden, assistant group leader in the General Office, was born in Rochdale, England, on March 29, 1909. Educated in his native land, he was employed as a salesman there until 1939. From the outbreak until the end of World War II he served with the National Fire Service at Coventry, Liverpool, Manchester and Sheffield during the blitzes of these cities.

Coming to Canada in October, 1948, Mr. Maden worked for the T. Eaton Company in Edmonton and in 1955 entered Government service with the Department of Municipal Affairs.

Public service is a habit with Mr. Maden, for he has been president of the Alberta British Commonwealth Association in Edmonton for the past six years, and for four of these he has also served as president of the Westmount Community League. One purpose of the former group is to help immigrants from the Old Country and as president, Mr. Maden met 35 of the 39 plane loads of British immigrants coming to Edmonton during the summer of 1957.

Mr. Maden is married. A daughter, Beryl, lives in Edmonton.

Ralph Jarrold is also assistant group leader in the General Office. Duties attached to the position include work on tax rolls of Improvement Districts, processing cash receipts, L.T.O. work, making cancellations and revisions on statements which are thus kept up to date.

Mr. Jarrold was born in Calgary. At an early age he moved with his parents to the Peace River country, but later settled in Edmonton. He attended school (including the Technical School) in Edmonton and in 1940 enlisted in the R.C.A.F. Following his discharge in October of 1945, Mr. Jarrold worked for eight and one-half years as a motorman with the Edmonton Transit System.

In March, 1955, Ralph joined the Field Service Branch of the Department of Municipal Affairs, later transferring to his present position in the General Office.

When possible, Ralph likes to go fishing. He is married and is the father of two boys.

NOW WE TELL ONE

Waiter: "I'm sorry, sir. Did you want these eggs turned over?"
Customer: "Yes - to the Smithsonian Institute."

* * * *

Patient: "Will this operation be dangerous?"
Doctor: "Nonsense. You couldn't buy a dangerous operation for just forty dollars."

* * * *

He was going through Main Street and stopped at the traffic officer's signal. Another car tried to pass and bumped him. The traffic cop called him down.

"My goodness," said the tourist, "do you mean to tell me that I was to blame?"

"You certainly were," said the cop.

"Why?"

"Because the other man is a City Trustee, his father is Mayor, his brother is Chief of Police and I go with his sister!"

RABIES CONTROL IN ALBERTA
(From Page 3)

ment of Agriculture vaccinated all dogs north of the 55 parallel. The program was organized by the District Agriculturists (some as county agents) of the Provincial Department, to speed up the vaccination. South of the 55°, vaccination was voluntary at the owner's expense. Clinics were organized in a great many centres.

Rabies is a reportable disease. Therefore, the Federal Department of Agriculture placed a quarantine law on dogs. To provide more law enforcement officers the Alberta Government asked all Municipalities, both rural and urban to pass dog control by-laws which included the destruction of strays. These laws were strictly enforced regardless of whether dogs were vaccinated or not. In the Peace River and Edmonton sub-divisions of the R.C.M.P., 4,677 actions were taken against dog owners in a three year period. These included prosecutions, warnings, and 657 dogs were destroyed. The above total does not include numerous prosecutions, etc. taken by Municipal authorities. For instance in the winter of 1952-53 in the City of Edmonton, several hundred dog owners were fined, and approximately 1,200 dogs and 1,000 cats destroyed.

To facilitate submission of specimens in a manner safe for all concerned suitable metal containers (5 gallon metal cans) were located at many locations throughout the province, namely with veterinarians, R.C.M.P. and forest rangers. They were given history forms, disinfectant and heavy rubber gloves. The public were advised to call these people and not remove the heads themselves. This eliminated as far as possible another potential source of danger to humans. The above personnel were responsible for investigations of suspected cases.

Proven rabid wildlife were wolves, foxes, coyotes, bears, lynx, weasel, beaver and a moose. They infected cattle, hogs, sheep, dogs, cats and horses. Incubation periods in domestic animals due to fox, wolf and coyote bites were described and veterinarians were urged to keep accurate records to further knowledge on this aspect.

In Alberta the seasonal peak of both rabid wildlife and domestic animals was in the January to April period where coyotes were the main disseminators of the disease in agricultural areas.

A system of forecasting potentially dangerous areas a year in advance was developed based on the concentration of rabbits, which attracted foxes, coyotes, etc. for food.

The need for a great deal of research on sylvatic rabies was emphasized.

Costly Program

The control program was costly especially to the Alberta Government which paid most of the bill but the results in protecting humans and livestock outweighed many times the expense in dollars and cents. No human cases occurred; people now are not living in continual fear of the disease; livestock are protected; and big game has increased.

Alberta is of the school of thought that a well-planned and executed wildlife depopulation program had a beneficial effect in controlling rabies under our conditions. To have adopted an attitude of "can't do anything" would have been difficult to justify especially when the public were subject to their first experience with the disease.

The fine cooperation from the municipalities and municipal districts was keenly appreciated and is one reason for the success of the control program.

NOW AVAILABLE

We have a limited number of pamphlets about the work of various branches of the Department of Municipal Affairs which we believe you'll find of interest and value. A request will prove it.

- IT'S A SERVICE DEPARTMENT..... Hon. A. J. Hooke
- IMPROVEMENT DISTRICTS DIFFER..... C. G. Macgregor
- MUNICIPAL INSPECTION BRANCH..... Bruce Ramsay
- SERVICE IN THE FIELD..... A. R. Isbister
- SPECIAL AREAS MANAGEMENT..... J. H. Todrick
- PLANNED DEVELOPMENT..... R. M. Rookwood

1958 EXECUTIVES

Union of Alberta Municipalities:

- President - Mayor Arthur Soetaert, Morinville
- 1st Vice-Pres. - Mayor J. M. McAfee, Red Deer
- 2nd Vice-Pres. - Mayor E. G. Miller, Olds
- Directors -
- Mayor Wm. Hawrelak, Edmonton
- Mayor Don MacKay, Calgary
- Mayor A. M. Shackleford, Lethbridge
- Mayor D. Broadfoot, Redcliff
- D. H. Hunter, Athabasca
- Dr. J. D. Wallace, Wainwright
- Mrs. D. K. Palfrey, Wetaskiwin
- Secretary - J. H. Galbraith, Ponoka

Association of Municipal Districts:

- President - Chas. P. Hayes, Strome
- Vice-Pres. - A. B. Haarstad, Bentley
- Directors - J. F. Smith, Fairview
- J. M. McKay, Brant
- G. W. Moyer, Ft. Saskatchewan
- Secretary-Treasurer - Mrs. M. Smith, South Edmonton

FIRST I. D. COMMITTEE

Newly-elected Advisory Committee of Improvement District No. 65, first in Alberta's history, met recently with officials of the Department of Municipal Affairs to familiarize themselves with organizational matters. Members are Charles Skoodopole, Hespero; Harry James, Chedderville; Arthur Robinson, Carlos; Stewart Forsyth, Rocky Mountain House; and Ernest Ostergren, Eckville. Mr. Ostergren and Mr. James have both served on municipal councils in former years, while the others are no strangers to local administration.

Result of a new policy under which residents of Alberta's Improvement Districts will now enjoy local representation, the committee will meet again in February to assist in laying out a program for I. D. No. 65 for the coming year. Elections and annual meetings will be held regularly thereafter.

Formation of Advisory Committees is made possible by an amendment in 1956 of the Improvement Districts Act. The same policy will be applied throughout the Province as far as possible. Departmental officials are confident the new step will result in more efficient administration and in better relations between the Improvement Districts and the Department.



First Improvement District Advisory Committee in Alberta meet with Minister and officials of the Department of Municipal Affairs. Seated are C. G. Macgregor, Administrative Accountant; Harry James, Chedderville; Hon. A. J. Hooke, Minister; A. W. Morrison, Deputy Minister; Ernest Ostergren, Eckville. Standing: Charles Skoodopole, Hespero; Stewart Forsyth, Rocky Mountain House; Arthur Robinson, Carlos; A. R. Isbister, Supervisor of Field Service.

EAGLESHAM FAVORED

Eaglesham won handily over Tangent as choice for headquarters of the local nursing service in a mail vote conducted recently by the Liaison Office of the Municipal Affairs Department. A record number of 450 ballots returned by the ratepayers gave 291 in favor of Eaglesham while 159 supported Tangent.

As reported in the November COUNSELLOR, a sample survey conducted in mid-autumn "indicated that 56 to 66 per cent of the total vote will be in favor of a move to Eaglesham". Final figures show that the majority was actually 64.6%.